

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT (NPS)

Breed's Hill, Charlestown, Boston

This monument marks the approximate center of a redoubt occupied by American forces during the June 17, 1775, Battle of Bunker Hill. Actually fought on Breed's Hill, where the monument is located, this was the first full-scale action between American militia and British regulars in the Revolution and proved to be the bloodiest single battle of the war. The British drove the colonials from their position, but their hard-wrought victory made them realize that the ensuing conflict would be longer and more difficult than they had envisioned. Solomon Willard designed the monument, a 220-foot granite obelisk, Lafayette laid its cornerstone in 1825, and it was completed in 1842. It is now part of the Boston National Historical Park. Visitors may climb to the top.